

Hi, Dana:

Tala Henry and I are cochairing a symposium "Implementation of TSCA as Amended by the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act - Science Issues." The symposium is proposed for the next annual North America meeting of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. The meeting is planned for November 12-16 in Minneapolis-St. Paul. More information about the meeting can be found at https://msp.setac.org

We are inviting you to submit an abstract to the symposium. The description of the symposium follows. Abstracts can be submitted at https://msp.setac.org/program/scientific-program/abstract-submission/ The abstract submission deadline is June 7.

Thank you for considering our symposium.

On June 22, 2016, the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amends the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the Nation's primary chemicals management law was signed into law. The amended TSCA includes several new mandates, including: (1) a mandatory requirement for EPA to evaluate existing chemicals with clear and enforceable deadlines; (2) a new risk-based safety standard for both new and existing chemicals; (3) increased public transparency for chemical information; and (4) a consistent source of

funding for EPA to carry out the responsibilities under the new law. Several of the new provisions of TSCA require additional science-based approaches to be developed, advanced and/or applied. Under section 4 of TSCA, EPA must reduce and replace, to the extent practicable, and must encourage and facilitate the use of scientifically valid test methods and strategies that will support regulatory decisions. Under section 5 of TSCA, EPA must make an affirmative finding with regard to unreasonable risk, often with very limited information available, which requires application of predictive models and estimation approaches and/or requests for testing when information is insufficient to make a reasoned evaluation. Section 6 of TSCA requires that EPA develop a risk-based screening process to identify high-priority and low-priority chemicals for further risk evaluation. This prioritization process must include considerations of hazard, exposure potential, persistence and bioaccumulation among other things. Risk evaluation must be conducted for all chemicals designated highpriority and must integrate and assess available information on hazards and exposures for the conditions of use of a chemical substance. Furthermore, EPA must also apply a number of scientific standards in carrying out sections 4, 5 and 6 of TSCA, including to use scientific information in a manner consistent with the best available science and consider as applicable reasonableness, relevance, clarity and completeness, variability and uncertainty, and peer review. In the interest of facilitating a scientific discussion and dialog regarding scientific approaches, databases, tools & models that may be brought to bear in implementing amended TSCA, we are seeking presentations on the following topics, particularly as they are available or apply to ecological receptors and ecosystems: alternatives to vertebrate testing and species extrapolation tools/models; tiered testing schemes for ecological systems; predictive tools such as (Q)SARs, expert systems, and analog identification techniques; and systematic review approaches - especially including reliability and relevance considerations and weight-of-evidence approaches.

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